National Water Grid programme

3853. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of National Water Grid programme and interlinking of rivers;

(b) how many linking schemes have been completed and how many are being delayed; and

(c) what are the reasons of delay and steps being taken to overcome these delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas which comprises of two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP and to give concrete shape to it. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed. Further, work of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one of the link in Peninsular Component Namely Ken-Betwa link has been taken up by NWDA.

(b) and (c) At present, no interlinking project under NPP is under implementation. Their implementation depends on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States and agreements with the neighbouring countries.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, together with Explanatory Memoranda on the Notifications:—

1. S.O. 243 (E) dated the 5th February, 2008, publishing the Income-tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2008.
2. S.O. 267 (E), dated the 6th February, 2008, specifying particulars of Ten Years Zero Coupon Bond of National Housing Bank (NHB).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8663/08]